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CANDID ANSWER,

To a PAMPHLET called

REASONS for keeping GUADALOUPE
at a Peace, preferable to CANADA, ex-
plained, in Five LETTERS from a GEN-
TLEMAN in GUADALOUPE, to his FRIEND
in LONDON.

In a LETTER to the AUTHOR.



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L O N D O N :

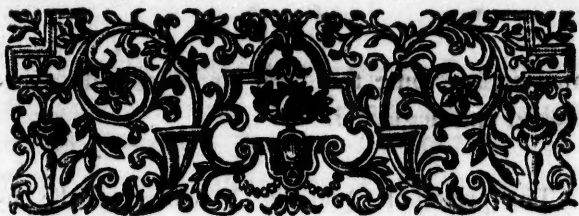
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THE NEW YORK



A C A N D I D
A N S W E R, &c.

S I R,

 S you have largely and freely entered into the Debate concerning the Value of *Guadaloupe*, and the Value of *Canada*, to the Interest of *Great-Britain*; and as I am of Opinion that you have misrepresented the Case in many Particulars, I hope you will readily excuse my enquiring into the Foundation of your Arguments. This I shall do with the utmost Candour, and shall then leave the Decision of it to the Judgment of the Public.

Debates on political Subjects are not entirely useless, if they serve no other Purpose, than that of collecting the different Opinions of Mankind: And though there may be found some in this Class of Writers too low to be much regarded, yet there

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may appear some too high to be entirely overlooked and neglected.

The principal Query is, Whether, at the ensuing Peace, it will be most advantageous to the Interest of *Great-Britain* to keep *Canada*, in Preference to *Guadaloupe*? To this I answer in the Affirmative; and in giving my Reasons for it, I shall fully consider your Arguments on the other Side of the Question, and shall endeavour, in a distinct, clear, and concise Manner, to point out the several Errors that have occurred to me, on an impartial and careful Review of your Pamphlet.

No one can be so weak as to imagine, that the *French* are fond of going to War merely for the Sake of fighting. No, it is the Ambition of enlarging their Territories, and of increasing their Dominions; and this, no Doubt, was the Occasion of the present War: *France* had, for a long Time, beheld with an envious Eye, the Increase of the *British* Settlements in *North America*, its Addition to the Strength of the *British* Naval Power, its Improvements in Commerce, and the Means of peopling a large and fertile Country with *British* Subjects. These were weighty Considerations with the *French* to begin a Rupture in that Part of the World.

The

The *British* Settlements on the Coast of *North America* extend from the Latitude of 50 to 30 Degrees, including *Nova Scotia*, *New York*, *Pennsylvania*, *Virginia*, *North* and *South Carolina*, and *Georgia*.

Now had the Arms of *France*, at the Commencement of the present War, been so successful as to have gained one Sea-Port on these Settlements, it is easy to conceive what a Situation the Rest of the *British* Colonies would have been in: The Navigation to *Canada*, either by the River *St. Lawrence*, or by the *Mississippi*, is not only tedious and uncertain, but dangerous; therefore, if the *French* had obtained one Port on the Sea Coast, we have Reason to suspect they would not have sent their Armies to the Continent of *Germany*, but to the Continent of *America*. Ten or fifteen thousand Men might have been transported with great Safety and Ease, from *France* to the Coast of *Carolina* or *Virginia*, in the Space of a few Weeks. Whatever System of Policy *France* may have adopted during the present Campaigns, it certainly took its Rise from the ill Success that attended her Arms on the Coast of *North America*. *France* had not in View, in the Year 1755, an *European* War; her whole Design was the Conquest, at least of Part of the *British* Settlements in *North America*: That Design has been happily baffled, by the Vigilance of the *British*

Court, and the Activity and Courage of *British* Commanders.

Can it then be right or prudent, to return *Canada* again to the *French*? They have now reconnoitred that vast Country, they have discovered their Errors in their late Negotiations, they are acquainted with the Strength of our Colonies, they have studied the Dispositions of the Indians; and, in short, have attained every necessary Information towards proceeding on sure Grounds, whenever they may think it proper to make another Attempt.

The Politics of *France* have, at all Times, been received with every favourable Advantage, and we have been taught to dread her Cunning, at a Time when we have been in no Fear of her Arms. She has planned in Secret, what, perhaps, she was not able to execute: Nay, even at this critical Juncture, she would answer as cavalierly as *Richard* the First, surnamed *Cœur de Lion*, did to *Meshtûl*, one of the Soltân's Grantees, in the Reign of the holy Wars: “ * Go, tell your
“ Lord, that on both Sides we perish every Day
“ —That it were best to refrain from further
“ Bloodshed. Beware how you think that this
“ Motion proceed from my Weakness—I have
“ only the common Good at Heart—Do not flat-
“ ter

* Vita & Res Gestæ Sultani Saladini.

“ ter yourselves with a vain Hope, because I
 “ have withdrawn the Camp; *for the Ram draws*
 “ *backwards only to butt with the greater Violence.*”

It is therefore highly natural to suppose, that, as long as the *French* shall be possessed of *Canada*, so long will there be a Contention between the rival Powers of *Great-Britain* and *France*. The Jealousy that has subsisted so long between the two Nations, is not to be imagined will subside, when so closely connected as to share the Continent of *North America* between them: As the one will increase, the other must decline; and the *French* will endeavour, upon every frivolous Occasion, to lessen the *British* Strength, till perhaps, by Stratagems and Intrigues, they will at last dispossess the *English* of all their valuable Colonies in that Part of the World.

The Reason you have urged to invalidate the Force of this Argument, seems to me so very extraordinary, that I shall beg Leave to quote that entire Paragraph from your first Letter.

“ The having all *North America* to ourselves,
 “ by acquiring *Canada*, dazzles the Eyes, and
 “ blinds the Understandings, of the giddy and
 “ unthinking People, as it is natural for the human Mind to grasp at every Appearance of
 “ Wealth and Grandeur; yet it is easy to discover, that such a Peace might soon ruin *British*

" *tain* : I say, the Acquisition of *Canada* would
 " be destructive, because such a Country as
 " *North America*, ten Times larger in Extent
 " than *Britain*, richer in Soil in most Places, all
 " the different Climates you can fancy, all the
 " Lakes and Rivers for Navigation one could
 " wish, Plenty of Wood for Shipping, and as
 " much Iron, Hemp, and Naval Stores, as any
 " Part of the World : Such a Country, at such
 " a Distance, could never remain long subject to
 " *Britain*; you have taught them the Art of
 " War, and put Arms into their Hands, and
 " they can furnish themselves with every thing
 " in a few Years, without the Assistance of *Bri-*
 " *tain*. They are always grumbling and com-
 " plaining against *Britain*, even while they have
 " the *French* to dread; what may they not be
 " supposed to do if the *French* is no longer a
 " Check upon them : You must keep a nume-
 " rous standing Army to overawe them; these
 " Troops will soon get Wives and Possessions,
 " and become *Americans* : Thus, from these
 " Measures, you lay the surest Foundation of
 " unpeopling *Britain*, and strengthening *America*
 " to revolt. A People who must become more
 " licentious from their Liberty, and more fac-
 " tious and turbulent from the Distance of the
 " Power that rules them; one must be very lit-
 " tle conversant in History, and totally unac-
 " quainted with the Passions and Operations of
 " the

“ the human Mind, who cannot foresee those
 “ Events, as clearly as any thing can be disco-
 “ vered, that lies concealed in the Womb of
 “ Time. It is no Gift of Prophecy, it is only
 “ the natural and unavoidable Consequences of
 “ such and such Measures, and must appear so
 “ to every Man whose Head is not too much af-
 “ fected with popular Madness, or political En-
 “ thusiasm.”

Now, Sir, if you had understood the Govern-
 ment or Constitution of the *British* Settlements in
North America, I think you could have hardly
 suggested any thing of this Kind. The Provinces
 are so many Districts, like petty States; each Pro-
 vince governed by its own Laws; these Laws
 framed by the legislative Body of each Province,
 adapted to their own particular Constitution, and
 not any ways relative to their neighbouring Dis-
 tricts. There can be no Appeal from one Court
 of Judicature in one Province, to any other Court
 in another; each Province having its own parti-
 cular Head or Governor. Were the *British* Set-
 tlements in *North America* governed in the same
 Manner as *Ireland*, by a Lord Lieutenant, we
 might then have some Reason to be apprehensive
 of a Revolution, in a Course of Years: But a
 general revolting can by no Means be thought
 compatible with the present System of their Con-
 stitution.

I entirely agree with you, in thinking the greatest Part of *North America* preferable, in many Respects, to *Great-Britain*; and cannot but imagine those fine Lines of *Somerville* very applicable to that Part of the World:

*On whose luxuriant Banks, Flow'rs of all Hues
Start up spontaneous, and the teeming Soil
With hasty Shoots, prevents its Owner's Pray'rs.*

But I can by no means consent to conclude with you, that nothing can secure *Britain* against the revolting of *North America*, but the *French* keeping some Footing there, to be a Check upon them. Are not the present Inhabitants of those Colonies either *British* born, or the Descendants of *British* Subjects? Do they not enjoy in every Respect, as extensively as we ourselves do in *Europe*, truly *British* Liberty? Is not their Trade supported, their Commerce increased, by *British* Subjects? Are not their Forts, in Time of War, supplied by *British* Soldiers, their Coasts defended by *British* Men of War? Can, therefore, any Addition to their Territories, become the Means of a general Revolt? They surely have nothing to dread so much, as the Intrigues of *French* Policy; nor need *Britain* ever fear to lose her Settlements in *North America*, unless she prepares herself the Way for it, by restoring *Canada* again to the *French*.

But

But you seem to rest the chief of your *Reasons* upon the Value of *Guadaloupe*, and its Dependencies, in Point of Trade to the *British* Nation. "Trade and Commerce," says *Bolingbroke*, and surely we may quote him for an orthodox Politician, though not as an orthodox Divine, "had been sometimes, and in some Instances, before the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, encouraged and improved : But the great Encouragements were given, the great Extensions and Improvements were made, by that glorious Princess. To her we owe that Spirit of domestic and foreign Trade, which is not quite extinguished : It was she who gave that rapid Motion to our whole mercantile System, which is not entirely ceased. They both flagged under her Successors ; were not revived under his Son ; were checked, diverted, clogged, and interrupted, during our Civil Wars ; and began to exert new Vigour after the Restoration, in a long Course of Peace ; but met with new Difficulties too, from the confirmed Rivalry of the *Dutch*, and the growing Rivalry of the *French*. To one of these, the pusillanimous Character of *James* the First gave many scandalous Occasions, and the other was favoured by the Conduct of *Charles* the Second, who never was in the true Interest of the People he governed. From the Revolution, to the Death of Queen *Anne*, however Trade and Commerce might

" be

“ be aided and encouraged in other respects,
 “ they were necessarily subjected to Depredations
 “ abroad, and overloaded by Taxes at home
 “ during the Course of two great Wars.”

And since the Succession of King *George* the 1st, to this Time, we may add the Debts of the Nation have been much augmented, and Taxes have been increased and multiplied. The last and the present War have been very expensive to *Great-Britain*; but it is not my Business at this Time, to enquire into the general State of the Trade and Commerce of the *British* Nation; it is sufficient for me to point out, the present Situation of the *British* Sugar Colonies:—It will be readily admitted, that we import more than a Sufficiency of Sugar to serve *Great-Britain*; because it is well known, that at Times we have made very considerable Exports in that Article—it cannot, therefore, be urged, that we are in any Want of Territory in the *West-Indies*—it may be said indeed, that the *British* Trade, when compared with that of the *French*, in the *West-Indies*, is trifling and inconsiderable: In answer to this, I shall insert the following Address; and if that was the State of *Jamaica* at that Time, during the Course of a long Peace, we may naturally conclude its present Situation to be much worse, since the Addition of two new Taxes, and the Losses and Disadvantages which have been naturally consequential,

sequential, from the last, and the present War.

To the KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY:

*The humble Address and Representation of the
COUNCIL of Jamaica.*

" Most Gracious Sovereign,

*" We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal
" Subjects, your Council of Jamaica, having
" taken into our Consideration, the declining
" State and Condition of this Island, think our-
" selves indispensably obliged, in Duty to your
" Majesty, and in Justice to ourselves and our
" Country, humbly to make some Representation
" thereof to your Majesty. We shall forbear
" troubling your Majesty with the many melan-
" choly Reflections, the present Situation of our
" Affairs hath naturally led us into; and shall
" chiefly confine ourselves to the most obvious
" and visible Causes of our Misfortunes, the In-
" crease and Success of our rebellious Slaves, the
" Decrease of our white People, and the Decay
" of our Trade and planting Interest: The first
" hath, in some Part, been guarded against by
" your Majesty's great Goodness in sending, and
" we hope continuing amongst us, two Regi-
" ments of Soldiers for our Preservation. The
" Decrease of our People is in a great Measure
" owing to our Loss of Commerce; and, there-
" fore,*

fore, we shall endeavour to point out some of
 many Causes of this latter Evil. We are, of
 late Years, deprived of the most beneficial
 Branch of our Trade, the carrying of Negroes
 and dry Goods to the *Spanish* Coast; the Loss
 of this occasioned the Desertion of a considerable
 Number of our Sea-faring Men, and
 others, from this Island, for want of Employment.
 A farther Discouragement to our
 Trade, is the frequent Hostilities committed
 by the *Spaniards*, who, regardless of the solemn
 Treaties entered into with your Majesty,
 spare no *English* Vessel they can overcome, and
 from whom it has hitherto been in vain to attempt
 the obtaining any Satisfaction in these
 Parts. We likewise beg leave to observe,
 that the Bays of *Campeachy* and *Honduras*, were
 many Years in the Possession of your Majesty's
 Subjects, and reputed Part of the Territories
 depending upon your Majesty's Government
 of this Island, and gave Employment to a
 considerable Number of Shipping and People,
 to cut and carry Logwood from thence; but
 we have been dispossessed of them by the *Spaniards*,
 who, likewise, there seized, and made
 Prizes of a great Number of Ships belonging
 to your Majesty's Subjects.

The low Value of our Produce may be very
 justly attributed to the great Improvement the

French

“ *French* have made in their Sugar Colonies, by
 “ the Encouragement given them, particularly,
 “ in allowing them to export their Commodities
 “ to foreign Markets, without first introducing
 “ them into any of the Ports of *France*; and
 “ from the Lowness of their Duties, and being
 “ under no Necessity of double Voyages, they
 “ can afford to undersell us; and, likewise, by
 “ the pernicious Trade that is carried on from
 “ *Ireland*, and your Majesty’s Northern Colonies,
 “ to the *French* Sugar Islands. It is well known,
 “ that Sugar and other Commodities, produced
 “ in the *French* and *Dutch* Colonies, are fre-
 “ quently imported into *Ireland*, without intro-
 “ ducing them into the Ports of *Great-Britain*,
 “ and paying the Duties, as your Majesty’s Sub-
 “ jects of your Sugar Colonies are obliged to
 “ do; and, consequently, those Foreigners are
 “ supplied with Provisions at easier Rates than
 “ we; and we are in a Manner deprived of a
 “ very considerable Market in that Part of your
 “ Majesty’s Dominions.

“ Your Majesty’s Northern Colonies import
 “ into this Island great Quantities of Provisions,
 “ and other Goods, for which they take no Part
 “ of our Produce in Exchange (a small Quantity
 “ of Molasses excepted) but are paid in Bullion,
 “ which they carry to *Hispaniola*, and buy Sugar,
 “ Rum, and Molasses, for their own Use. This
 “ Trade

" Trade is not only unequal and injurious to us,
 " but prejudicial even to themselves, and highly
 " so to our Mother Country; and drains us of
 " so much Bullion, in Favour of *France*, which,
 " otherwise, might have centered in *Great-*
 " *Britain*.

" We further beg leave to observe to your
 " Majesty, that Cocoa was one of the principal
 " Commodities of this Island, and a great En-
 " couragement to the settling of it; but that is
 " now lost, which is in a great Measure owing
 " to the Restrictions, and heavy Duties laid on
 " it in *Great-Britain*: And possibly our Sugar,
 " Rum, Ginger, and other Produce, may be
 " attended with the same Consequences, if not
 " timely remedied. As the industrious Planters
 " of this Island have lately introduced Coffee,
 " and began to make Plantations thereof, we
 " humbly beg leave to represent it, and to ad-
 " dress your Majesty for some Encouragement,
 " either by a Bounty on Importation, or other-
 " wise, that such Settlements may be carried on
 " with great Chearfulness. We have already
 " taken too much of your Majesty's Time and
 " Patience, in this Representation; but our Zeal
 " for your Majesty's Service, in the Preservation
 " of this Colony, and the natural Love we owe
 " to ourselves and to our Country, in which is
 " our all, have encouraged us to lay these Par-

" ticulars

“ ticulars before your Majesty : We humbly sub-
 “ mit them to your Royal Consideration, and
 “ hope for such Relief, as in your Majesty’s
 “ great Wisdom shall be most adviseable, that
 “ we, with the rest of your Majesty’s Subjects,
 “ may enjoy the Blessings of a Reign glorious in
 “ itself, and so capable of making us, and our
 “ Posterity, a happy and flourishing People.”

By Order of the COUNCIL,

St. Jago de la Vega,
 Nov. 27, 1731.

JOS. MAXWELL,

Clerk of the COUNCIL.

Since this Address, the illicit Trade to *Ireland* has been in some Measure prevented, and proper Encouragement given to the Coffee-Plantations, by Acts of Parliament for those Purposes ; but the illicit Trade, between the *British* Northern Colonies, and the *French* Sugar Islands, has been very considerably enlarged and augmented.

As I have nothing more in view, than a candid and rational Answer to the Arguments contained in your Letters, I shall now proceed to examine them by proper Quotations.

In Page 32, you say, “ It is in the Sugar
 “ Islands only, that *Britain* can acquire Terri-
 “ tory to her own Advantage, and it is there she
 “ is

" is most deficient; one Acre in the Sugar
 " Island, is of more real Advantage to her than
 " a Thousand in *America*. It is from these
 " Islands that the greatest Part of her Trade and
 " Wealth flow. As Islands they are detached,
 " like herself, from the rest of the World, and
 " must always be dependant upon her, or some
 " other such Power, while Time is, as they pro-
 " duce nothing that the Mother-Country does;
 " they must always be cloathed from Head to
 " Foot by the Mother-Country, fed from thence
 " in the most material Articles, and every
 " House furnished from that Quarter in all its
 " Wants, Tables, Chairs, Beds, Cabinets, Mir-
 " rors, Locks, Hinges, and Bed-Linens; in
 " short, every Thing must come from home;
 " nor can they be in any other Situation, as the
 " Expence of living, together with the Warm-
 " ness of the Climate, renders it impossible to
 " manufacture them there so cheap as you can
 " bring them from *England*, or *North America*;
 " therefore they can never subsist by themselves
 " without you; must always remain dependant,
 " and continue the Fountain of great Wealth to
 " the Mother-Country."

Now, Sir, can it be imagined, that there is any
 Reason to complain of the Want of Territory in
 the *West Indies*, when it is well known, that the
 Trade of our Sugar Colonies is upon the Decline:

Will

Will a new Acquisition enable the *British* Planter to undersell the *French*? Or, will the *North Americans*, contrary to their usual Custom, to support this new Acquisition, generously pay you a greater Price for your Sugar, Rum, and Molasses, than they can be supplied with at *Hispaniola*, or *Monte Christi*?

In order to extend the Trade of the *British* Sugar Colonies, on a proper Footing, it is necessary to place it one Degree, at least, below that of the *French*: It is not now in our Power to do this. On the first Settlement of the *Carribbee* Islands, *Great-Britain* furnished *France*, and most of the Nations of *Europe*, with Sugar. The Policy of *France* soon discovered the great Advantages flowing from this Branch of Commerce; they began to cultivate it with great Assiduity, and in the Course of a few Years, by any easy Tax of one *per Cent.* their Trade to the *West-Indies* became more general and more extensive than that of *Great-Britain*. And as the *French* have improved in their Sugar Trade, so has the Sugar Trade of *Britain* declined in the same Proportion. The Exigences too of *Great-Britain*, during the Course of two expensive Wars, have hastened its Decline; by the Addition of new Taxes; and indeed every new Tax laid upon those Commodities, which are exported to the *West-Indies*, must, in some Measure, affect the

Price of Sugar, or Rum, or whatever is the Produce of the Sugar Colonies.

I would not be understood to assert, that *Great-Britain* has Sugar Islands enough already; it certainly is a very beneficial Branch of Commerce, but under the present Situation of her Affairs, unless she had made a Conquest of the *French* Settlements on the Island of *Hispaniola*, the keeping *Gaudaloupe* in our Possession, will have little or no Effect on the Price of Sugar at home, neither will it prevent the illicit Trade being carried on between the Northern Colonies, and the *French* Sugar Islands.

The next Paragraph I shall insert is from your first Letter, Page 12.

“ *Britain* certainly is not increasing in its
 “ Number of Inhabitants, and the Number of
 “ People is the great Wealth and Strength of
 “ every Country, where Industry abounds: If
 “ two Countries trading and dealing so deep with
 “ one another, the one increasing so fast in People,
 “ as *North America* does, and the other diminishing,
 “ notwithstanding all the Advantages
 “ of Manufactories, Trade, Agriculture, which
 “ have so lately advanced of late Years; the
 “ Cause is past doubt, the one is draining the
 “ other of People, or which is much the same
 “ in

“ in the End, the one increasing so fast must
 “ soon be Master of the other ; that is, diminish-
 “ ing it, or at best standing still.”

In answer to this, I shall give an Extract from
 a very sensible Pamphlet written in *Pensilvania*,
 in the Year 1751, soon after the late War, when
 Commissaries were appointed to settle Bounds
 between the *English* and *French* in *North America*.

“ There are supposed to be now upwards of
 “ One Million of *English* Souls in *North America*,
 “ (though it is thought scarce 30,000 have been
 “ brought over Sea) and yet, perhaps, there is
 “ not one the fewer in *Britain*, but rather many
 “ more, on Account of the Employment the
 “ Colonies afford to the Manufactories at home ;
 “ this Million doubling, suppose but once in
 “ twenty-five Years, will in another Century be
 “ more than the People in *England*, and the
 “ greatest Number of *Englishmen* be on this Side
 “ the Water. What an Accession of Power to
 “ the *British* Empire by Sea, as well as by Land !
 “ What Increase of Trade and Navigation !
 “ What Number of Ships and Seamen ! We
 “ have been here little more than 100 Years,
 “ and yet the Force of our Privateers in the late
 “ War, united, was greater, both in Men and
 “ Guns, than that of the whole *British* Navy in
 “ Queen *Elizabeth's* Time : How important an

" Affair then to *Britain* is the present Treaty;
 " for settling the Bounds between her Colonies
 " and the *French*, should be to secure Room
 " enough, since on the Room depends so much
 " the Increase of the People. In fine, a Nation
 " well regulated is like a Polypus, take away a
 " Limb, its Place is soon supplied; cut it in
 " two, and each difficient Part shall soon grow
 " out of the Part remaining. Thus if you have
 " Room and Subsistence enough, as you may
 " by dividing, make ten Polypusses out of one,
 " you may of one make ten Nations, equally
 " populous and powerful; or rather increase a
 " Nation tenfold in Number and Strength."

If we take a View of the several military
 Transactions since the Commencement of the
 present War, in *North America*, we shall find,
 that out of the six capital Engagements there,
 the *French* have been successful in three; viz. at
Fort du Quesne, where General *Braddock* was de-
 feated; at *Ticonderoga*, where General *Aber-*
crombie commanded; and at *Sillery*, where Ge-
 neral *Murray* was repulsed.

The Defeat of General *Braddock* was as favour-
 able a Circumstance to the *French*, at the Com-
 mencement of the War, as they could have
 wished for; and had they, at that critical Junc-
 ture, been furnished with a sufficient Army to
 have

have penetrated into the *British* Colonies, it was easy to have foreseen, what would have been the Consequence: As it was, it alarmed the *North Americans*, it awakened the *British* Ministry, it warmed, animated, and revived the whole Nation in general: It was at this Time the *British* Settlements in *North America* appeared in their true Light; their Value, Interest, and Advantages to the Commerce, and Navigation of *Great-Britain*, were then properly considered; the Conquest of *Canada* became the Wish and Concern of every true *Briton*; this was cherished, supported, and improved by the unwearied Application of our Ministry at home; and as successfully executed abroad, by the Bravery and Conduct of General *Wolfe*, *Amberst*, and *Johnson*.—The Annals of *Great-Britain* can never appear more glorious than in the History of the present War; and we have no Reason to doubt, but that the Treaty, at the ensuing Peace, will be as equally glorious, from the well known Abilities of our Ministers.

I shall now collect into one Head, whatever you have urged in Favour of *Guadaloupe*, and shall then give a general Answer thereto.—“ As
 “ you have lived, you say, for some Time on
 “ the Spot in *Guadaloupe*, you must know the
 “ Imports and Exports; what the Island has
 “ produced, and what it can produce; nay, that
 “ it can produce 150,000 Hogsheads of Sugar
 C 3 every

“ every Year; that all our Sugar Islands, in-
 “ cluding *Jamaica*, do not produce, at a Me-
 “ dium, annually, above 90,000 Hogsheads;
 “ that *Guadaloupe* can produce besides, an im-
 “ mense Quantity of Coffee and Cotton, Indigo,
 “ Cocoa, Ginger, &c. That the People in *London*
 “ judge partially against this Island, without
 “ knowing any Thing about it; that they are so
 “ far prejudiced against it, as not to allow them-
 “ selves to take any just Information upon the
 “ Subject; that it is the Value of *Guadaloupe*,
 “ not its Insignificancy, that has raised such Op-
 “ position to it; the Value, Wealth, and Pro-
 “ duce of *Guadaloupe*, is dreaded by the rest of
 “ our Islands, as a Rival to their private For-
 “ tunes in the other Islands, and they are a
 “ powerful Party in *England*;—and that the
 “ more the other Islands struggle against it, the
 “ more Reason we have to keep it, because their
 “ private Apprehensions can only proceed from
 “ the great Quantity of Sugar, Rum, Cotton,
 “ Coffee, &c. that it can produce more than
 “ the other Islands we have can do. That if it
 “ was a Thing of Insignificancy, they would en-
 “ tertain no Apprehensions about it. That the
 “ Exports of this Island to *Britain* and *America*,
 “ has been as great, as any Island *Britain* has.”—
 After which you make the following Observa-
 tions. “ First, That if we have not a Suffi-
 “ ciency of Sugar Islands to serve *Great-Britain*,
 “ and

“ and *America*, in Sugar and Rum, which I may
 “ call the Necessaries of Life, as no Family in
 “ *England* can want Sugar twice a Day, and few
 “ in the North Part of *America* can want Rum
 “ as often *; we ought, therefore, if possible, to
 “ acquire more of the Sugar Islands, at least as
 “ much as to supply ourselves, though we should
 “ give up all the foreign Markets to *France*, a
 “ Thing very opposite to the Interest of *Britain*,
 “ as no Man will disown, that it were much for
 “ our Advantage, to have more of the Sugar
 “ Trade, and allow the *French* as little as we
 “ can, since it is so plain, that the *French* naval
 “ Strength has in a great Measure arisen from
 “ that Trade.

“ Secondly, That the *West-Indian* Islands we
 “ have, small as they are, consume as much, if
 “ not more, of the Produce of *Great-Britain*,
 “ than the *American* Colonies do; therefore, if
 “ the *West-Indies* were doubled at this Juncture,
 “ so would the Exports from *England* be doubled,
 “ and the whole Trade betwixt *Britain* and the
 “ *West-Indies*; also the Trade betwixt the *West*-
 “ *Indies* and *America*; the *West-Indies* would de-
 “ mand double from *America* they do now, and

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“ *America*

* This Sentence is certainly imperfect, but I quote it as I find it. I leave this, and some other Erratas in this Work, to abler Pens, viz. our periodical Critics.

“ *America* be thereby enabled to increase her
 “ Demands from *England*. Thus *England* and
 “ *America* profit considerably by acquiring Ter-
 “ ritories in the *West-Indies*; but no Acquisi-
 “ tion of Territory in *America* can have that
 “ Effect upon our *West-India* Islands, or raise
 “ their Value.

“ Thirdly, *France* draws all her Wealth
 “ from the *West-Indies*, so may we; the ac-
 “ quiring Neutral Islands may in some Sense
 “ remedy our Deficiency, but not totally, as
 “ these are but few, and may be many Years
 “ in peopleing; whereas the *French* Islands are
 “ pretty well peopled already. If you leave
 “ the *French* in Possession of all the Islands they
 “ have now in the *West-Indies*, they must still
 “ remain too strong for us, and raise their
 “ naval Strength with more Rapidity from that
 “ Quarter after the Peace. The *French* Islands
 “ being taken from them remedies our Defi-
 “ ency, and also diminishes their Strength,
 “ it secures both Ends. You can never humble
 “ the Trade and naval Strength of *France*, but
 “ by taking their Sugar Islands from them,
 “ prune those luxuriant Branches that carry the
 “ fairest and richest Fruits of *France*, then you
 “ accomplish the End proposed.”

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Were we to give an implicit Faith to this Parade of the *French* Naval Power, we should have Reason to dread them, even at the Conclusion of a War, during which their Armaments never appeared terrible to the *British* Fleets. From the Commencement of the present War to this Time, there has not happened a single Engagement, that can derive any Honour to the Fleets of *France*: Her Men of War have been employed in the Service of the Merchants, to bring home Sugar from the *West Indies*: They have been remanded back when on their proper Stations, to their Ports again, in order to fit out and man their Privateers: Nay, some of their Men of War have been in the actual Pay of the mercantile Part of the *French* Nation.

Guadaloupe, you say, can produce 150,000 Hogheads of Sugar every Year. Supposing this to be true (though most People here in *England* think it greatly exaggerated) it was certainly incumbent upon you to have pointed out the Difference betwixt an *English* and a *French* Hoghead*.—But this is not the Point I am to contend with: I am willing to allow all that you can urge in Favour of *Guadaloupe*; and shall refer you only to the Terms of the Capitulation of that Island, at the Time it was surrendered to the *English*.

* An *English* Hoghead generally weighs from 12 C. to 17 C. a *French* Hoghead seldom above 8 C.

Engliſh.—If *Guadaloupe* is to remain in the Poſſeſſion of the *Engliſh*, the *French* Inhabitants, who are now the Proprietors of the chief Eſtates there, will no doubt be induced to ſell thoſe Eſtates, and to return to their Mother-Country, or fix themſelves in ſome of the other *French* Iſlands ; if *Guadaloupe* is ſo rich and valuable, theſe Eſtates will be highly rated : And can it answer the Policy of the *Britiſh* Nation, to pay her Bullion for a Sugar Iſland, when there remain ſo many neutral Iſlands unimproved and uncultivated ? If the *Britiſh* Sugar Trade is ſo greatly diſtreſſed, as you would repreſent it, for the Want of Territory, why, at the Treaty of *Aix-la-Chapelle* in 1748, did our Miniſters omit ſo material an Article ? Why have we tamely ſubmitted to the ſettling of *St. Lucia* and *St. Vincent* by the *French* ? Why did not *Britain* follow their Example, in a Settlement on the Iſland of *Tobago* ? An Iſland equally as extenſive and fertile as *Guadaloupe*.

It cannot be denied, but that an Acquiſition of Sugar Iſlands, ſo as to ſupply foreign Markets, would be a great Addition to the Trade and Commerce of *Great-Britain* : And that Commerce certainly is moſt beneficial to her Inter-eſt, which ſerves to increaſe the Number of her Seamen. But the keeping *Guadaloupe* cannot answer this End, unleſs we had the *French* Settlements on the Iſland of *Hiſpaniola* in our Poſſeſſion ;

sion; that Island alone is sufficient to furnish all *Europe* with Sugar, if it was properly cultivated: So that the Loss of Territory to the *French* in the *West-Indies*, so long as they retain *Hispaniola* in their own Hands, can never affect their Sugar Trade.

It has been observed, that the *French* not only undersell us in the Article of Sugar, but that they likewise undersell us in almost every Branch of Manufactory, partly owing to their greater Industry and Application, and partly to the small Stipend or Wages they pay to their Journeymen. This Observation may be just, so far as it relates to the Trade of *Old France*; but it is not of equal Force with respect to the Sugar Trade. Many Circumstances have contributed to raise the Price of Sugar in the *British* Islands: The Addition of new Duties, and the Decline of our *African* Trade, are the most material; it is well known the Price of Slaves is thirty *per Cent.* higher now, than it was fifteen or twenty Years ago; this surely must affect the Sugar Plantations, as they are intirely cultivated by the Labour and Strength of those Slaves.

I have said nothing hitherto of the Furr Trade (which would open to us almost a new Branch of Commerce) and several other Advantages that might accrue to the *British* Nation, from the Possession

session of *Canada*. These must appear in the strongest Light, to every sensible and unbiaſſed Reader, without my particularizing them. If I have given a clear and candid Answer to the Pamphlet under Conſideration, my Deſign is fully answered. I had no Intention to interfere with the political State of *England* and *France*; nor do I offer this to the Public either to depreciate *Guadaloupe*, or to enhance the Value of *Canada*; the Obſervations I have made, naturally aroſe from the Subject in Debate, and they are urged in a familiar manner, without any Diſquiſition into political Maxims.—I ſhall conclude with the following Extract, characterizing the preſent State of *France*, and wiſh it may prove a Memento to our *Britiſh* Youths.

“ There is in Nature a certain Point of Progreſſion, from which ſhe cannot depart without
 “ destroying herſelf. If her Motion is ſlow, ſhe
 “ degenerates; if too quick, ſhe falls into Decay; and Sterility is the Effect of both theſe
 “ Extremes.—It is a known Rule, that none propagate leſs, than thoſe who endeavour to propagate much: For this Faculty wears out, like
 “ other things. The Reaſon why the *Turks* have ſo few Children, is, becauſe they have ſo many
 “ Wives; and the only Difference between our Debauchery, and the *Ottoman* Voluptuouſneſs,
 “ conſiſts only in the Word. All our Cities in
 “ *France*

“ *France* resemble so many Seraglios, where at
 “ any Time the Citizen may toss the Handker-
 “ chief to the favourite Sultana. Debauchery
 “ has debilitated us to such a Degree, that the
 “ Kingdom is full of old Men at the Age of
 “ twenty-five; and it seems as if the full Extent
 “ of human Life in *France* was limited to forty-
 “ five; so that it may be truly said, that our
 “ Time of Propagation ends when that of other
 “ Nations is in its highest Vigour. Take No-
 “ tice of the greatest Part of our Nobility, that
 “ is, such to whom Fortune has opened a full
 “ Career to their Desires, and you would take
 “ them for walking Skeletons.—They are only
 “ the Shadow of Bodies, and exist by Art: For
 “ there is nothing to support them. The Fami-
 “ lies of this Species extinguish daily: For by
 “ what Miracle can these patched-up Beings pro-
 “ create, when they themselves can hardly be
 “ counted in the Rank of Men? Every other
 “ Class of People, in Proportion to their Abili-
 “ ties, follow the Example of the Great; and,
 “ in short, the universal Depravation of Man-
 “ ners throughout the whole Kingdom, has a
 “ manifest Tendency towards Depopulation *.”

May those baneful Plants, Debauchery and
 Luxury, never flourish in these Realms, to ener-
 vate

* On *Populoufness*, translated from the *French*. See *Dodley's*
Annual Register for 1760.

vate the *British* Nobility, and corrupt the lower Class of People ; but may that noble Proclamation of our Royal Sovereign, for the *Encouragement of Piety and Virtue, and for preventing and punishing of Vice, Profaneness, and Immorality* ; be held in due Reverence by every Class of People, as far as his Majesty's Dominions extend : May Peace, Content, and Happiness, be seen in every Eye, and felt in every Heart : May Commerce flourish, to increase our Wealth and extend our Territories : And may we become a happy and a glorious People, under a truly patriot King, is the earnest Prayer of Sir,

Yours, &c.

T H E E N D.



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